THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) to (c) The additional annual expenditure due to the acceptance of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission is estimated at Rs. 10200 crores. In addition, arrears to the extent of Rs. 4800 crores are estimated to be paid in 1997–98 and Rs. 3500 crores in 1998–99. An amount of Rs. 11250 crores has already been provided in BE 1997–98 and a further sum of Rs. 3750 crores is being provided in RE 1997–98. Additional funds are being provided through savings by an overall cut of 5% on Plan and Non-Plan expenditure and through additional resource mobilisation.

(d) to (f) The subject of salaries of the employees of the State Governments falls under State List. Thus, it is for the respective State Governments to consider whether they intend to give pay scales to their employees at par with Union Govt. employees or not. It is also for the respective State Governments to raise additional funds on that account, if necessary.

Income Tax Act, 1974

574. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some deposits made under compulsory Deposit (Income-Tax Payers) Act, 1974 (now repealed on 1.4.96) are still lying with the deposit offices;

(b) if so, the total amount of these unclaimed deposits still lying with the Government; and

(c) the mode in which Government propose to us this amount which is not withdrawn by the depositors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The outstanding balance held under the Compulsory Deposits (Income Tax Payers) Scheme with the various Banks as on 30.6.1997 was about Rs. 65.66 crore. Reserve Bank of India has already advised all the banks to write to the depositors individually to withdraw their outstanding deposits.

[Translation]

Metallic Yarn Industry

575. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of industries included in the category of small industries and the efforts made by the Government to promote them;

(b) whether the Government have received any memorandum from various organisations on the products of metallic yarn;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have provided concessions to metallic yarn industry by including it in the category of small industry;

(e) if so, the time since when the orders in this regard have been implemented and the details of concessions provided as per the orders and the time since when;

(f) whether the income tax officers are realising the outstanding amount from metallic yarn industry despite the orders; and

(g) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Small Scale Industry includes an industrial undertaking in which investment in fixed assets in plant & machinery whether held on ownership terms or on lease or by hire purchase does not exceed Rs. 60 lakhs and investment limit in plant & machinery for ancillary units is Rs. 75 lakhs.

821 items are presently reserved for production in small scale sector. Any other items in addition to reserved items may also be manufactured in small scale sector.

Some of the incentives provided to small scale industries are

(i) Land, building and other infrastructure facilities in identified areas.

(ii) Concessional rate of excise duty upto specificed turnover limits.

(iii) Preference in Central Government purchase programme.

In addition State Governments may give incentives as per their industrial policy.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) All small scale industrial units including metallic yarn units can avail the incentives as mentioned in (a) above.

(f) and (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.